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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/24/2003

Shigeru Nemoto

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22850

7590

10/08/2009

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EXAMINER

CWERN, JONATHAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3737

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/08/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/691,570	Applicant(s) NEMOTO, SHIGERU	
	Examiner Jonathan G. Cwern	Art Unit 3737	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 40-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 40-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8/3/09 has been entered.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is greater than 150 words in length. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

Claims 40-49 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 40, in the phrase "from condition storage device" insert the word "a".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 40-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. There are several grammatically confusing phrases found in the claims. For example, in claim 40, the phrase "a time-injection rate pattern as operation condition" is confusing, and it is unclear what is meant by this phrase. In claim 41, the phrases "is such a pattern" and "injection control means is for" are confusing. This is not typical means for language, and it is also unclear as to whether applicant is attempting to invoke 112 6th paragraph in regards to means for language. Perhaps the word "is" should be removed. Also, there is insufficient antecedent basis for the term "the operating conditions" in claim 40.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 40-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uber, III et al. (US 5840026) in view of Duchon et al. (US 2003/0018252), Cherek et al. (US 2004/0081341), and Dahlin et al. (US 2004/0078215).

Uber et al. disclose a patient specific dosing contrast delivery system. The system first allows for a user to enter patient specific data such as the patient's size and weight. This data can also be downloaded from an external database. The system

Art Unit: 3737

then determines the appropriate concentration of the contrast media, as well as the appropriate flow rate, volume, time delay, etc. The system also takes into account imaging parameters such as the section of the body being imaged, and can automatically adjust based on a desired image quality or sensed amount of concentration in the body. The concentration of contrast agent can also be adjusted by adding in a diluent (column 5, line 20-column 6, line 52; column 8, lines 1-7; column 12, lines 5-26). Uber et al. fail to show a touch screen user interface.

Duchon et al. disclose an angiographic injector system. Duchon et al. teach a touch screen that is used to select injection parameters ([0022]). Duchon et al. also teach injecting saline ([0074]).

Cherek et al. disclose a method for positioning a patient. Cherek et al. teach a touch screen which displays a patient's body, and scans an area of the patient's body based on which area of the body is selected ([0010]).

Dahlin et al. disclose a system for documenting medical findings. Dahlin et al. teach a touch screen user interface which can display a region of the body, and when an area is selected, can further zoom in to display that area of the body in more detail ([0086]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have modified the system of Uber et al. to use a touch screen as taught by Duchon et al., as this will provide the user with a simple control over the operation of the system. A variety of different user interfaces could be provided on the touch screen for controlling various portions of the operation, as is well known in the art.

Art Unit: 3737

Cherek et al. and Dahlin et al. provide specific examples of such user interfaces which could be employed in the combined system of Uber et al. and Duchon et al. Providing an image of the body for the user to select the desired area being imaged will provide a simple and intuitive way for the user to select the desired area.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 40-49 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan G. Cwern whose telephone number is (571)270-1560. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:30AM - 6:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Casler can be reached on 571-272-4956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3737

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jonathan G Cwern/
Examiner, Art Unit 3737

/BRIAN CASLER/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3737